

room, &c.; 200*l.* have been already subscribed, and there is no doubt but the sum will be considerably augmented. — At Melpash Green (midway between Beaminster and Bridport) the foundation stone of a new church was laid last Thursday week by the Hon. and Rev. Somerville Hay. It is to be 109 feet long, 60 feet wide, and to have a steeple 60 feet high, with five bells therein. It is estimated to hold 400 persons. Mr. B. Ferrey, of London, is the architect. — It is in contemplation to make the village of Hunstanton, in Norfolk, a very attractive and convenient place for seaside visitors, by appropriating some portion of its celebrated cliff and the fields adjoining to the formation of a village, with an hotel, bath-house, library, shops, and other buildings necessary for the establishment of a sea-bathing place. In the arrangements of the plan a site for a chapel is to be reserved, and a pleasant walk formed to the chalybeate spring, which is within a mile of the village. — The committee for the formation of public parks and play-grounds in Manchester have purchased Endham Hall estate, at Harpurhey, the residence of Mr. Jonathan Andrews, for a sum of 7,250*l.* A few weeks ago they purchased the Lark Hall estate, in Salford, from Mr. Wm. Garnett, for 7,000*l.*; and we believe these two properties will be laid out as parks, and ready for occupation in the course of a few months. — His Grace the Duke of Cleveland has given 100*l.* to the schools about to be attached to the collegiate church, Wolverhampton, and become a subscriber of 20*l.* per annum. — A meeting of the committee for promoting the establishment of public baths and places of recreation at Birmingham, was held on Tuesday week, when it was resolved that steps should be immediately taken for the erection of two sets of baths. — The restoration of St. Mary de Crypt Church, Gloucester, is to commence forthwith, the sum of 1,450*l.* having already been subscribed. — The Bishop of Durham has contributed 500*l.*, and the Rev. George Fielding, the incumbent, 100*l.*, towards the enlargement of St. George's Chapel, Bishop Auckland. — The Collegiate School at Marlborough increases so rapidly in favour with the public, that it is found necessary to make very extensive additions to the buildings, without delay. The suite of rooms appropriated to the accommodation of the head master has been made ready for the reception of additional pupils; and amongst the additions now contemplated, a suitable residence for that functionary will be erected. The number of pupils at present in the establishment is upwards of 200, and the applications for admission are very numerous. — Dr. Warneford, who has already expended 7,000*l.* in the erection of charitable institutions in Birmingham, is now making arrangements for laying the foundation for a House of Recovery for persons afflicted with contagious diseases. Earl Howe has also subscribed 50*l.* for the same object. — The Rev. Dr. Warneford has just paid over to the Rev. Chancellor Law, the Rev. Vaughan Thomas, and William Sands Cox, Esq., his munificent donation of 500*l.* towards the additional building at the Queen's Hospital. — At a preliminary meeting held at Dee's hotel, Birmingham, last week, it was resolved to establish a public cemetery, for the town and neighbourhood, in connection with the Established Church. The proposal has received the sanction of the Bishop of the diocese, and the principal church authorities of the town. — The old houses at the west end of St. Peter's Church, Sudbury, are now levelled to the ground, this labour of many years having been completed last week, when that fine ecclesiastical edifice, so long encumbered by the encroachments of a tasteless age, was once more displayed in all its fair proportions. The church now stands entirely clear of all obstructions in the middle of the area; but the removal of these obstructions has disclosed the barbarous manner in which parts of the windows have been blocked up, and the ornamental work has been defaced; and a large sum will be necessary for its complete restoration. — A company has been formed for the purpose of erecting a landing-pier and slip, at Weston-super-mare, in the Bristol Channel. The pier is to be of solid masonry, commencing from the junction of the Knightstone-road, continuing in a north-west direc-

tion to the Isle of Bearbeck, passing over the island and extending into the channel to dead low water; the whole length being little short of a mile, and of the width of 30 feet throughout. The approach from the channel will be at all times at a depth of water sufficient to insure the safe landing of passengers, being at lowest point not less than 18 feet, and will give a safe, speedy, and cheap mode of communication to parties visiting or trading to the western, Welch, and Irish coasts. It will be so constructed as to afford a delightful promenade to visitors and inhabitants. The engineer is Mr. Daniel Horwood, of Bristol.

THE IRON TRADE.

THE reduction of 2*l.* per ton in merchant-iron, announced in our impression of this day fortnight, has been general throughout the South Staffordshire district. The present price is probably not higher than can be steadily maintained until some of the heavy orders for rails are cleared off. The speculation in pig-iron in Liverpool received a very serious check during the past week. Many of the needy holders have pressed sales, and large parcels of Scotch pigs have been offered at 75*s.* per ton. Early in March, purchases were made at 110*s.*, and none of the makers would take orders under 120*s.*

The feverish state of the present year's market is expected to occasion the iron trade a permanent injury, from the fact that the Americans are now strenuously endeavouring to produce more iron. The produce of iron last year in the States amounted to 500,000 tons; the estimate for the present year is much larger; and in ten years it is calculated that the make will reach a million of tons, unless the fall in prices in Great Britain should be such as to render it cheaper for the Americans to purchase our produce than to manufacture for themselves.

A correspondent of the *Glasgow Herald*, who we are given to understand has good means of obtaining accurate information as to the present and future prospects of the iron trade of Scotland, says that the quantity of pig-iron made at present in Scotland will amount annually to from 400,000 to 420,000 tons. Of this quantity about 100,000 tons are used for the manufacture of malleable iron in Scotland; of the remaining 320,000 tons, 50,000 tons, or thereabouts, turn out to be what is called white or forge pig, which is not used for making castings, so that the present annual production of pig-iron in Scotland, suitable for foundry purposes, is 270,000 tons. There are ten new furnaces in the course of erection, some of which may be in blast this year. These furnaces belong to the present manufacturers of iron, and, when all in operation, will add about one-eighth to the present production; but, as the manufacture of malleable iron is on the increase in Scotland, a large additional supply of pig-iron will be required for this purpose. It is obvious, therefore, that the statements which have recently appeared, as to the increase in the make of pig-iron in Scotland, are incorrect; and it must be kept in view that, while the present makers are erecting new works, the produce of the older ones must decrease, in consequence of the exhaustion of the mineral fields on which they depend for the supply of materials.

TO CURE THE DISEASES WHICH ARISE FROM THE USE OF LEAD IN CERTAIN TRADES. — Take two baths of soap and water every week, occasionally adding a little sulphur, and carefully wash the uncovered parts of the body with soap and water at every interval between your working hours. You must drink one or two glasses of lemonade, made with sulphuric acid, every day, according to the greater or lesser quantity of dust or poisonous vapour with which the surrounding atmosphere may be charged. At the same time you should be more careful than the followers of any other trade, to abstain from the use of spirituous liquors. The efficacy of this preventive treatment is easily explained by the fact, that the mineral poison absorbed is thus converted into a soluble, and therefore innocuous salt (sulphate of lead), and the saturnine particles deposited on the surface of the body are taken away.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION FOR ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE.

THEIR seems every reason for believing that the approaching meeting, to be held in Cambridge next month, will be brilliant and successful. A local subscription has been commenced with good spirit to defray the expense of the requisite preparations for receiving the association, and all the necessary arrangements are in progress. The attendance of distinguished foreigners is expected to be great. A programme has been issued to members, from which we learn that the general committee will meet on Wednesday, the 18th of June, at one o'clock, for the election of sectional officers, &c. From Thursday, the 19th, to Wednesday, the 25th of June, inclusive, the committees of sections will meet daily at ten precisely; and the sections will meet from Thursday to Tuesday at eleven precisely. General evening meetings will be held on Thursday, the 19th, and Wednesday, the 25th, at eight o'clock. A room will be provided for the reception of philosophical apparatus, and specimens of natural and artificial products, which may be brought for the purpose of illustrating particular communications, or for exhibition to the members generally. We would remind the public of what the Dean of Ely stated in the Town-hall, namely, that persons may be admitted to the sectional meetings only, on being nominated in writing by a member, and paying 1*l.*, and that ladies' tickets may be had, through the application of a member, on payment of the same sum. Strangers need be under no sort of apprehension on the subject of lodgings: accommodation will be secured for them by the committee at a perfectly reasonable rate.

One of the local papers says, "Extraordinary as the statement may appear, we claim credit for entire accuracy when we state that the Town-hall of Cambridge is undergoing a process of cleaning and smartening-up. The presenting of such a miserably shabby old place to the members of the British Association would have been a disgrace which Cambridge, we are glad to say, is now likely to escape. The plasterers, carpenters, and painters are hard at work, uniting their efforts to make the place presentable, and in a week or two its most intimate friends will scarcely recognize it."

Correspondence.

BRICK AMATEURSHIP.

"Quot homines, tot sententiae."

SIR, — Your correspondent, "Mr. John Phillips," is a thorough English amateur of brickwork, with all its "reticulated or decussated pieces of work, with interlaces between the interlaces," as Dr. Johnson has said on another occasion: but lest all the world in such case should be thought to let judgment go by default, because they do not offer any opposing opinion, I beg to say, as one of the architectural and fine-arts-loving public, that to my eyes nothing more outrages good taste and deforms English towns and English landscapes than these structures of brick-building amateurs, whose deformities in blazing red, dirty yellow, or plaster white, destroy the picturesque in city, town, or country; and though I do not rejoice in unsound walls, yet I think it quite compatible with sound work to employ stucco, where marble or stone is precluded from necessary views of economy; and I hope and trust the day is fast arriving when people will only let brick walls be seen where they can afford to have nothing better.

Hoping to find more "sympathisers" on my side of the question than that of your worthy correspondent "Mr. John Phillips,"

I am, Sir, &c.,

W. MASON.

CEMENT ON IRON.

SIR, — I shall feel greatly obliged to any of your correspondents who will inform me of the best cement I can use for running mouldings on iron girders; I am afraid to use plaster of Paris for fear of corrosion.

I am, Sir, &c.,

Worcester.

SUBSCRIBER.